

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01

OMB-01 /058 W

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R 220630Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4902

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 4143

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, JO

SUBJECT: JORDANIAN EX-RADICAL SULAYMAN NABULSI APPOINTED SENATOR

1. A ROYAL DECREE WAS ISSUED ON JUN 19 APPOINTING
SULAYMAN NABULSI TO THE JORDANIAN SENATE. NABULSI
REPLACES FORMER PRIME MINISTER SA'D JUMA IN 30-MAN
SENATE. JUMA WAS APPARENTLY FORCED TO RESIGN FOLLOWING
A RECENT TALK HE DELIVERED AT UNIVERSITY OF JORDAN CRITICIZING
GOJ, AND SPECIFICALLY PRIME MINISTER RIFAI FOR CORRUPTION AND
EXTRAVAGANCE IN PERSONAL LIFE STYLE.

2. APPOINTMENT IS SOME WHAT UNUSUAL INASMUCH AS NABULSI
IS REGARDED AS PRIMARY LEADER OF TRADITIONAL (AND
ADMITTEDLY FEEBLE) RADICAL OPPOSITION TO GOJ.
NABULSI WAS MOST PROMINENT IN OPPOSITION MOVEMENT
IN LATE 1950'S WHEN HE WAS PRIME NIMISTER OF SHORT-
LIVED RADICAL GOVERNMENT. HE STILL RETAINS SOME
POPULAR FOLLOWING AMONG DIE-HARD RADICALS AND HAS
CLOSE TIES WITH SOVIET EMBASSY HERE.

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3. WE BELIEVE KING'S PRIMARY MOTIVE BEHIND APPOINTMENT IS TO GIVE SLIGHTLY MORE REPRESENTATIVE CHARACTER TO SENATE (PARTICULARLY SINCE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES HAS BEEN DISOVED SINCE RABAT SUMMIT), WHICH NOW CONSISTS ALMOST ENTIRELY OF CONSERVATIVE PRO-GOJ FORCES. AT SAME TIME, NAVULSI IS EXTREMELY ILL (PROBABLY WITH LEUKEMIA) AND UNDOUBTEDLY PHYSICALLY UNABLE TO CREATE MUCH TROUBLE. (KING INCIDENTALLY HAS PAID ALL NABULSI'S MEDICAL BILLS RUNNING WELL OVER \$30,000.)

4. IN FINAL ANALYSIS, NABULSI APPOINTMENT ILLUSTRATES KING HUSSEIN'S TRADITIONAL METHOD OF DEFUSING POTENTIAL OPPOSITION: BY BUYING THEM OFF WITH MATERIAL REWARDS AND HONORS.
PICKERING

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